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PATENT

Docket No. 265.00260101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Watowich et al.

Group Art Unit: 1632

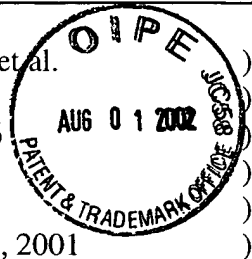
Serial No.: 09/981,286

Examiner: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 4993

Filed: October 15, 2001

For: DRUG DISCOVERY METHODS



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

Cells that are useful in the methods described herein vary depending on the pathogen or toxin used. The cell chosen for use with a particular pathogen or a particular toxin is one for which the pathogen or toxin is cytotoxic, preferably, cytolytic. Which cells are appropriate for use with a particular pathogen or a particular toxin is known to the art, and can be chosen by a person having skill in the art. Examples of some pathogen/cell combinations include *Bacillus anthracis* and the macrophage cell line J774A.1 (Friedlander et al., *Infect. Immun.*, 61, 245-252 (1993), and Hanna et al., *Mol. Biol. Cell*, 3, 1269-1277 (1992)), Rift Valley fever virus and Vero cells, Venezuelan equine encephalitis and Vero cells, and *Rickettsia* spp. and primary chick embryo cells (Walker and Cain, *Lab Invest.*, 43, 388-396 (1980)) and human endothelial cell culture (Walker et al., *Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology*, 40(3):776 (1981)).